

## **MINUTES**

### **City of San Diego Park and Recreation Board BALBOA PARK COMMITTEE**

February 1, 2007

#### **Meeting held at:**

Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room  
2150 Pan American Road  
San Diego, CA 92101

#### **Mailing address is:**

Balboa Park Administration  
2125 Park Boulevard MS39  
San Diego, CA 92001-4792

#### **ATTENDANCE:**

##### **Members Present**

Laurie Burgett  
Darlene Davies  
Vicki Granowitz  
Dan Mazzella (Arr 6:18)  
Nancy Rodriguez  
Paul Rucci  
Donald Steele  
Michael Stepner

##### **Members Absent**

Sungill Kim (Ex)  
Michael Singleton (Ex)  
Joyce Summer (Ex)

##### **Staff Present**

Charles Daniels  
Mauro Garcia  
Kathleen Hasenauer  
Paul Sirois

#### **CALL TO ORDER**

Chairperson Davies called the meeting to order at 6:05 P.M.

#### **APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED, AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO  
APPROVE THE MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 4, 2007 MEETING.  
(STEELE/STEPNER 7 - 0)**

#### **REQUESTS FOR CONTINUANCES**

None

#### **COMMUNICATIONS**

Alyssa Wolver, a 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue resident, read two proposals for expansion of gate closures on Balboa Drive and targeted area nightly closure to aid law enforcement efforts. She requested that the items appear on the March 1, 2007 Balboa Park Committee Agenda. Copies of the proposals were given to the committee members.

#### **CHAIRPERSON'S REPORT**

Chairperson Darlene Davies commented on the beautiful flowers in the Plaza de Panama. She also noted that the valet was no longer diagonally parking vehicles on Pan American

Road East. The Special Park and Recreation Board meeting held on Wednesday, January 31, in the Balboa Park Club Ballroom was well attended and had a good representation of diverse interests. Opposing views were presented at the public hearing by respectful attendees. Many comments were directed to the proposed re-organization of the Park and Recreation Department and the impacts to the communities.

Michael Stepner will share his views on Governance and the recent C3 panel discussion.

## **STAFF REPORT**

Jeffery Tom thanked Alyssa for her comments and observations on the west side of the park. He recently toured the park with Senior Park Ranger Casey Smith and saw areas of encampments as well as the brush abatement performed by the CCC. Parking issues on Balboa Drive and 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue will be discussed with Traffic Engineering. Council Member Atkins attended the C3 breakfast and was a panel member for the Governance discussion.

Mauro Garcia stated that seven transients, who had cut locks to gain access to the Cabrillo Bridge, were recently evicted. They had inhabited the structure for more than a month. Staff has since placed other locking devices on the doors and tack welded the manhole covers to safeguard the structure.

Kathleen Hasenauer reported the following in response to the January 4 Communication: Repairs to the Carillon were made in December when several fuses malfunctioned. The customary 12:00 P.M. concerts were affected by the outage. The Carillon speakers affixed to the exterior of the California Tower to project the chimes into the park have been in the same location for more than thirty years.

Paul Sirois stated that the repair to the El Prado sink hole is complete, with the exception of the concrete repairs which will be finished in the next two weeks.

Exterior street, building, and ornamentation light checks occur on a quarterly basis throughout Balboa, Golden Hill, Presidio, Grape, and 28<sup>th</sup> Street Parks. Generally on each quarterly check, more than twenty lights are out or are flickering due to ballast issues. Work requests submitted by park staff to General Services are usually completed within thirty to sixty days.

Ace Electric has been working on the lighting system at Morley Field for the past several months. As soon as repairs are made, other lighting issues surface. Recently several bulbs/ballasts went bad and the wiring on one of the lights shorted. The contractor is trying to determine the reason for a sudden voltage drop on the last two lights on the southern branch of lights. The system has old galvanized steel conduit which is corroded and no doubt contributing to the shorting out of the wiring.

City crews rehabilitated the landscape strip at Zoo Place and Park Boulevard with a new irrigation system and plant material. New landscape and an irrigation system will be installed on Pan American Road East, west of the Spreckels Organ Pavilion parking lot.

New shrubs and several Tipuana trees will be planted in the next few weeks. This project has been funded with a grant from the San Diego Foundation.

Staff have been working with several volunteer groups and the CCC to thin heavy underbrush, remove fallen trees, and clear transient camps along the slopes on the west side of the park, in Golden Hills Park, and the Cabrillo Bridge.

Charles Daniels reviewed the packet of information provided to the committee. He discussed the CIP updates and roofing projects at the Old Globe, San Diego Museums of Art, and Man. Construction on the ornamentation projects should begin in March 2007 and completed by March 2008.

Work continues on the interior of the House of Spain. They will be asked to provide a mow curb. Park and Recreation staff will install the landscaping. A consultant has been hired for the Myrtle Way Pergola. It appears that most of the eighty year old lumber is useable.

Repair to the San Diego Museum of Man Bridge have not yet been completed due to an issue with the inclusion of the indemnity clause in the contract.

## **ACTION ITEMS**

### **Consent**

101. None

### **Adoption**

201. General Plan Update: Recreation Element

This item will be discussed in March. In his absence, Chairperson Davies requested that Michael Singleton's e-mail to Kathleen Hasenauer be included in the minutes.

Kathleen, I am in support of many of the items that the Draft Recreation Element is proposing.

I would like to encourage the differentiation between active regional parkland and resource based open space and parkland. I would also like to continue to encourage the development of quantifiable standards that justify regional parkland. This could use population in the city, region as well as tourist population use. I would really like to know what percent of our regional parkland and resource based parks are for the benefit of citizens of San Diego, residents of the county or visitors from outside the region. This helps in determining use of TOT funds as well as looking at what sources of funding (including the county and other state grants) should be paying for maintenance and capital expansion.

I also have some concern over the definitions of useable parks being only those that are less than 2% slope. This is a definition that can and should be applied to sports fields, but it should not be applied to active parkland, which is fully

useable at 4%, mostly useable up to 8% and marginally useable up to 12%. The use of Balboa Park community park standards seems to be acceptable for Morley Field area and probably Golden Hill. However, the rest of the park is really used as regional assets and are not dominated by the local community. Uptown has been on record to oppose counting any of the west side of Balboa Park towards neighborhood or community population based requirements.

### **Special Events**

301. Celebra Health Fair

Kathleen Hasenauer briefly discussed the event in the absence of the applicant. The Health Fair is consistent with activities held in Balboa Park.

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED EVENT AS PRESENTED. (STEELE/GRANOWITZ 7-0)**

302. A Celebration of Diversity

Kathleen Hasenauer briefly discussed the event in the absence of the applicant. They have been advised that 6<sup>th</sup> Avenue will not be closed for their event and portable toilets and dumpsters are required.

**MSC IT WAS MOVED/SECONDED AND CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY TO RECOMMEND APPROVAL OF THE PROPOSED EVENT AS PRESENTED WITH 6<sup>TH</sup> AVENUE TO REMAIN OPEN THE DURATION OF THE EVENT. (GRANOWITZ/RUCCI 7-0)**

### **WORKSHOP ITEMS**

401. None

### **INFORMATION ITEMS**

501. San Diego Natural History Museum Dead Sea Scrolls Visitor Management and Entry Plan Tents

Jim Stone discussed the plan for the anticipated attendance of 4,000 per day. Timed entry to the museum will be utilized. It is estimated that visitors will stay an average of ninety minutes. Use of mass transit is encouraged. Staff has not yet decided on a parking and shuttle plan. Three options are being considered.

502. San Diego Natural History Museum Dead Sea Scrolls Opening Events

George Brooks-Gonyer said that numerous media are expected for the opening of the exhibit. Heightened security procedures will be in place. Private opening events have been scheduled. They have requested closure of the parking lot for their use.

### **SUB-COMMITTEE REPORTS**

601. Land Use and Policy

Proposals prepared by Alyssa Wolver will be discussed at the next sub-committee meeting.

## **COMMMTTEE MEMBER REPORTS**

Dan Mazzella said that Area Committee One did not meet. He commented on the proposed re-organization challenges for the Park and Recreation Department.

Michael Stepner shared his experiences at the C3 symposium. He felt the Governance discussion and the restructuring of the Park and Recreation Department were very timely. The dialogue has begun and collaboration is important. Balboa Park is unique and cannot be treated the same as other parks. Finances are a concern. Many questions have been raised. Once the information is gathered, the next steps will have to be determined. Private funding versus public funding, and the roles of the two entities in Balboa Park have to be ascertained. Public spaces should not be privatized. The private sector can fund, but should not manage Balboa Park. The focus should be for the betterment of the park. Choices will have to be made. People are clearly vested in Balboa Park. The 2015 Centennial will be another celebration for Balboa Park.

The Friends of Balboa Park and C3 will work together to develop a forum on Governance. Mission Bay Park has needs and experiences similar to Balboa Park.

Donald Steele thanked Judy Swink of C3 for the excellent discussion on Governance. He also recognized Darlene Davies and Dan Mazzella for their roles in the Park and Recreation Board Special Meeting.

## **ADJOURNMENT**

Ms. Davies adjourned the meeting at 7:32 P.M.

### **Next Regular Meeting:**

Thursday, March 1, 2007  
6:00 P.M.  
Balboa Park Club, Santa Fe Room  
2150 Pan American Road  
San Diego, CA 92101

Respectfully submitted,

Mauro Garcia

